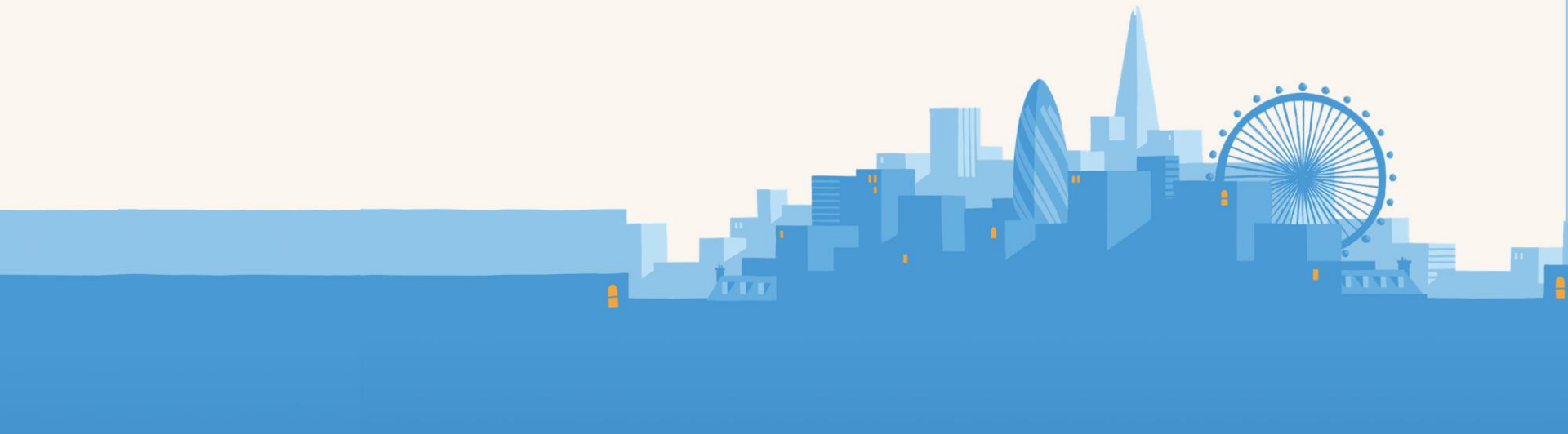




Home Office

Visiting the UK



Visitor routes

Standard visitor

- No visa required for non-visa nationals, including EU, EEA and Swiss nationals
- Permission to stay for 6 months
- Wide range of permitted activities
- General principle: no work
- Can enter via e-Gate

Permitted Paid Engagement (PPE) visitor

- No visa required for non-visa nationals, including EU, EEA and Swiss nationals
- Permission to stay for 1 month
- 6 distinct categories of PPE plus most activities permitted under Standard visitor
- Cannot use e-Gates. Need to see a Border Force Officer to get correct stamp

Marriage/Civil Partnership visitor

- Visa required for all nationalities
- Permission to stay for up to 6 months
- To marry or form a civil partnership in UK plus most activities permitted under Standard visitor
- Can enter via e-Gate

Transit visitor

- No visa required for non-visa nationals, including EU, EEA and Swiss nationals
- Permission to stay for up to 48 hours
- Can enter via e-Gate

Permitted activities for Standard visitors

Under the [Visitor Rules](#), Standard visitors to the UK are permitted to undertake all the activities at [Appendix Visitor: Permitted Activities](#), including the following:

Tourism and leisure	Volunteering	Attend meetings, conferences, negotiate deals	Range of intra-corporate activities and audits
Install, dismantle, repair, service or advise on equipment	Site visits, trade fairs.	Science, academic, creative, sport, legal activities	Work-related training
Study	Oversee the requirements for goods and services	Overseas roles requiring specific activities in UK: drivers, journalists, academics, PAs, tour groups, translators	Private medical treatment

Permitted paid engagements (PPE)

The following are permitted paid engagements:

- (a) an **academic** who is highly qualified within their field of expertise, coming to examine students and/or participate in or chair selection panels
- (b) an **expert** coming to give lectures in their subject area
- (c) an **overseas designated pilot examiner** coming to assess UK-based pilots to ensure they meet the national aviation regulatory requirements of other countries
- (d) a **qualified lawyer** coming to provide advocacy for a court or tribunal hearing, arbitration or other form of dispute resolution for legal proceedings within the UK
- (e) a **professional artist, entertainer, or musician** coming to carry out an activity directly relating to their profession
- (f) a **professional sports person** coming to carry out an activity directly relating to their profession



Home Office

Routes for creatives



Overview – creatives coming to the UK

Creatives can come to the UK to undertake short-term engagements on 3 main routes:

	Standard visitor	Permitted Paid Engagement (PPE) visitor	T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting
Entry clearance required?	Depends on whether you are a visa national or not.	Depends on whether you are a visa national or not.	Yes. Unless the applicant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is a non-visa national, has a Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS), & is seeking entry for 3 months or less.
How long can I stay?	Up to 6 months	Up to 1 month	Up to 12 months if Entry Clearance held. Up to 3 months if no Entry Clearance held (as described above).
What can I do in the UK?	<p>An artist, entertainer, or musician may:</p> <p>(a) give performances as an individual or as part of a group;</p> <p>(b) take part in competitions or auditions;</p> <p>(c) make personal appearances and take part in promotional activities;</p> <p>(d) take part in one or more cultural events or festivals on the list of permit free festivals in Appendix Visitor: Permit Free Festival list (where payment is permitted).</p> <p>Unless they are performing at a PFF, payment beyond prize money and expenses is not permitted.</p> <p>Can also undertake all other permitted activities in Appendix Visitor: Permitted Activities.</p>	<p>A professional artist, entertainer or musician may carry out an activity directly relating to their profession, if they have been invited by a creative (arts or entertainment) or sports organisation, agent or broadcaster based in the UK. No formal sponsorship required but a letter or invitation is needed.</p> <p>Applicants must be able to demonstrate this is their full-time profession.</p> <p>Payment permitted. Applicant must be over 18. Engagement must be arranged before travel and declared as part of the application (visa and at the border),</p> <p>Can also undertake all other permitted activities in Appendix Visitor: Permitted Activities except study and transit.</p>	<p>A Creative Worker is someone who can make a unique contribution to the UK's rich cultural life, for example, as an artist, dancer, musician or entertainer, or as a model contributing to the UK's fashion industry.</p> <p>Creative Workers may undertake paid work in the UK if they have a Sponsor who is licenced by the Home Office and has assigned a CoS to the individual.</p> <p>The T5 Creative or Sporting route allows for multiple engagements during an individual's time in the UK. There can be no longer than 14 days between each engagement. However, when calculating the 14-day period between engagements, any time spent by the worker outside the UK, will not count towards the 14 days.</p>

Overview – creatives coming to the UK

The T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting route in more detail

The T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting Worker route allows professionals to work in the UK for up to 12 months through formal sponsorship. For information about extending stay under T5 (Temporary Worker) Creative or Sporting Worker from within the UK please visit <https://www.gov.uk/tier-5-temporary-worker-creative-and-sporting-visa/extend-your-visa>

Under the Points Based System, there are mandatory documents; the T5 guidance - <https://www.gov.uk/tier-5-temporary-worker-creative-and-sporting-visa> - provides further information.

Usually, entry under T5 requires a visa regardless of the nationality of the individual. However, non-visa nationals seeking to come to the UK for three months or less under this route, can apply for leave to enter at the border, provided they obtain a CoS in advance. They will be required to present their CoS number to an Immigration Officer on arrival and may be required to provide evidence of meeting the maintenance requirements.

Non-visa nationals wishing to enter the UK via Ireland and stay for three months or less, must apply for remote clearance. Our published guidance provides more detail and can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/common-travel-area>

Those intending to stay for more than three months must obtain a visa in advance of travel.